

Guidelines for Collecting Hair Root Samples for DNA Genotyping

To collect a Hair Root Sample you will need:

- **Hair sample envelope** - write animal ID on envelope before collecting DNA.
- **Application form** - obtained from the Breed Association Office.
- **Comb or brush** - clean and rid of old hair prior to using for sampling
- **Tape** - to secure hair sample.

Collect hair from the tip of the tail (switch). The root-ends contain the DNA. Samples are to be **PULLED**, not clipped.

1. Clean the tail switch to remove any foreign material. Comb or brush the tail to remove dead hair. If needed, wash and rinse the tail well, allowing it to dry completely. The sample must be free of urine or manure. Dirty samples will not be processed. Contamination will make the sample unfit for DNA testing.
2. Wrap approximately 5 hairs around a finger, about two inches away from the skin. Give a sharp pull to remove the hair. Inspect the hairs to ensure the follicles are attached. Hair strands without follicles do not contain DNA and can not be tested.
3. Repeat step 2 until you have obtained 20 hair roots.
4. Place all of the hair roots at one end with the long strands pointing straight down. Secure the hairs together with adhesive tape and wrap approximately one inch from follicles. Place the sample in the labelled envelope and immediately seal to minimize contamination. Hair from only one animal is to be placed in each envelope.
5. If doing more than one animal, WASH HANDS before starting the next animal or use a clean pair of surgical gloves. This will reduce the risk of cross-contamination of the DNA sample.
6. **Repeat** the steps for each animal.
7. Place the completed application form(s) and identified hair sample envelope(s) in a larger envelope addressed to:
Bova-Can Labs
c/o Saskatchewan Research Council
15 Innovation Blvd.
Regina, Saskatchewan S7N 2X8
8. The package may be sent by regular Canada Post mail service.

And alternative is to place hair samples in a new white envelope with the following information written on the outside:

- Breed.
- Animal's name.
- Sex (M/F).
- Registration number.
- Tattoo or tag number.
- Owner's name.
- Owner's phone and fax number.

Place this envelop inside another envelope and send it to Bova-Can at the above address. Include a note saying that the application will be send from the CLRC.

Send your application for registration to the CLRC with a note that the hair sample has been sent to Bova-Can. The CLRC will fill out the application for the DNA test and send it to Bova-Can on your behalf.

Members should not send payment to Bova-Can. You will be billed through the CDCA office.